

WE CLAIM AS OUR INVENTION:

1. Method for on-site preparation of a relief image comprising the following steps:

(a) laminating a material comprising, in the order given, a first peelable support (1), an image recording layer (2) and an adhesive layer (3) onto a UV-sensitive material comprising a support (7), an UV-sensitive layer (6) wherein the adhesive layer (3) is laminated to the UV-sensitive layer (6);

(b) image-wise exposing the image recording layer (2) to form a mask;

(c) flood exposing the UV-sensitive material through the mask;

(d) developing the UV-sensitive material;

wherein the peelable support (1) is removed either before step (b), (c) or (d)

and wherein steps (a) to (d) are performed within a period of less than 2 months.

2. Method according to claim 1 wherein the UV-sensitive material further comprises an additional layer (5) on top of the UV-sensitive layer and wherein the adhesive (3) is laminated on top of the additional layer (5).
3. Method according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the image recording layer (2) is a laser ablatable layer comprising a heat combustible polymeric binder and a light absorbing compound.
4. Method according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the image recording layer (2) is a thin metallic layer.
5. Method according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the image recording layer (2) is an ink jet receiving layer.
6. Method according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the image recording layer (2) is a thermographic recording layer.

7. Method according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the image recording layer (2) is a photothermographic recording layer.
8. Method according to any of the preceding claims wherein the first peelable support (1) is a plastic film coated with a release agent on the side facing the image recording layer (2).
9. Method according to any of the preceding claims wherein said adhesive layer (3) is a thermosensitive adhesive layer.
10. Method according to claims 1 to 8 wherein said adhesive layer (3) is a pressure-sensitive adhesive layer.
11. Method according to claim 10 wherein said pressure-sensitive adhesive layer is covered by a second peelable support (4) which is removed before step (a).
12. Method according to claim 11 wherein the second peelable support (4) is a plastic film coated with a release agent on the side facing the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer
13. Method according to claims 8 or 12 wherein the release agent is a silicone.
14. Method according to any of the preceding claims wherein said UV-sensitive material is a photoresist material.
15. Method according to any of the preceding claims wherein said UV-sensitive material is a lithographic printing plate precursor.
16. Method according to any of the preceding claims wherein said UV-sensitive material is a flexographic printing plate precursor.
17. Method according to any of the preceding claims wherein the mask is removed by the developing step (d).
18. Method according to claims 1 to 16 wherein the mask is removed by an additional developing step between step (c) and step (d).

19. Method according to claims 1 to 16 wherein the mask is removed by peel-off before developing step (d).